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LIEUT.-GENERAL SIR WILLIAM THOMAS DENISON, K.C.B., R.E., was born in 1804. He was the son of John Denison, Esq., M.P., of Ossington, and brother of the Rt. Hon. John Evelyn Denison, M.P., Speaker of the House of Commons, and of the late Dr. Denison, Lord Bishop of Salisbury. After completing his preliminary studies, he entered the Corps of Royal Engineers, in which he was distinguished as one of the most successful of the scientific officers employed under the direction of Colonel Colby, Superintendent of the Trigonometrical Survey of Great Britain. While serving with his corps, he was frequently employed by Government on special engineering duties in England and the colonies. On Lieut. Denison's return from Canada, where he was engaged on the construction of the Rideau Canal, he was placed in charge of the course of Topographical instruction for Engineer Officers and Sappers at Chatham, in connexion with which he established an astronomical observatory. He subsequently had control of the works at Woolwich and Portsmouth Dockyards, employing his leisure time in editing the first series of Corps Papers on subjects connected with civil engineering. He became a Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society in 1834, and of the Royal Society in 1838.

The administrative ability of Captain Denison having been brought under the notice of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, he was appointed, in 1846, to the office of Lieut.-Governor of Tasmania. About the same time he received the honour of knighthood. In 1854, he was removed to Sydney, as Governor-General of Australia, and finally he was translated in 1860 to the Governorship of the Madras Presidency. This latter tour of duty included a brief episode as acting Governor-General of India, during the few months' interval after the death of the Earl of Elgin in 1863, and the arrival of his successor Sir John Laird Mair (now Lord) Lawrence. Sir William Denison's brief administration of this high and responsible office gave complete satisfaction to the Home Government. He resigned his appointment as Governor of Madras in 1866, and returned to England in May of that year, thus closing a successful career as a Colonial Governor for the long period of twenty years.

While at Sydney and Madras Sir William Denison took a great interest in the promotion of astronomical observations in connexion with the established observatories at these places, and he was ever ready to support anything which he considered advantageous towards the progress of Astronomy. During his long absence from England he never failed to carry on a frequent correspondence on astronomical and other scientific questions with some of the principal philosophical minds of this country, by some of whom he was much esteemed.

Sir William Denison married, in 1838, Caroline Lucy, daughter of Admiral Sir Phipps Hornby. He was made a Knight Companion of the Bath in 1856, a Major-General in

March 1868, and a Lieut.-General in the latter part of 1870. After his return to England, he employed his leisure time in the preparation of his most characteristic work, *Twenty Years of Vice-Regal Life*; and after a few years of arduous application to the duties of a River Commissioner, as well as much attention bestowed on colonisation, he was called hence, after a very brief illness, on the 19th of January, 1871, in his 67th year, in all the honours of deep and unfeigned attachment amongst his personal friends; and amongst those who only knew him in public life, with all the respect due to his unblemished career as a "soldier, an officer, and a gentleman,"—such at least is the testimony of a few brother officers who have been privileged with his friendship during half a century.

EDWIN RICHARD WINDHAM WYNDHAM QUIN, Earl of DUNRAVEN and MOUNT EARL, was born at Adare Manor, in the county of Limerick, on the 19th of May, 1812. He was Lord Lieutenant and Custos Rotulorum of the County of Limerick, Knight of the order of St. Patrick, and a Commissioner of National Education in Ireland. From the year 1837 to 1851 he represented Glamorgan-shire in Parliament. He was a man of singular accomplishments, and an earnest student of science.

Lord Dunraven was educated at Eton, and Trinity College, Dublin. He was at that time devoted to the science of astronomy, and made it an essential condition of his entering college that he should be prepared for it under the tuition of Sir William Hamilton, to whom he was introduced by his friend Dr. T. Romney Robinson, of Armagh. He resided for about two years at the Dublin Observatory, where he devoted himself earnestly to observing-work, and on one night alone he observed as many as 150 transits of stars. Such labour, however, proved injurious to his sight, the failure of which prevented him carrying out his intention of erecting at Adare a first-class observatory. His interest in the science, however, remained unabated. He became, in the year 1831, a Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society. His visits to the late Lord Rosse and the late Mr. Cooper, of Markree, were sources of unmixed delight to him, as affording him the opportunity of resuming his favourite study; and towards the close of his life he watched with intense interest the construction of the great Melbourne telescope in Dublin. He was also an excellent practical geologist and botanist, and gifted with a singular appreciation of and intense enjoyment in Nature.

In the year 1840 Lord Dunraven formed the acquaintance of the late Dr. Petrie, and from this and the influence of the warm friendship which sprang up between them may be dated the commencement of his devotion to the science of archæology. He had watched the stoppage of the Ordnance Survey of Ireland with the same deep regret that was felt by all the enlightened men of the country, and in 1843 it was through his energy that a large and